

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652, N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: NBC PROPOSAL TO INTERVIEW GSE'S

REF.: MOSCOW 13646

1. IREX EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP IS AWAY FROM NEW YORK AND CANNOT BE REACHED UNTIL MONDAY FOR REACTION TO NBC PROPOSAL. IREX PROGRAM OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR GSE PROGRAM EXPRESSED VIEW WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR NBC TO DELAY PROPOSED FILMING/INTERVIEWS UNTIL EARLY NEXT WEEK IN ORDER PERMIT IREX LEADERSHIP CONSIDER MATTER AND OFFER ANY SUGGESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE.
2. DEPARTMENT SHARES EMBASSY VIEW THAT PUBLICITY ON US-SOVIET EXCHANGE PROGRAMS IS GENERALLY HELPFUL, BUT WE CONCUR IN IREX REQUEST TO DELAY ACTION IF POSSIBLE UNTIL IREX LEADERSHIP HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT. WHEN DOES NBC WISH CONDUCT INTERVIEWS?

KISSINGER

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